(iv) Bombay - Madras - Bombay or vice versa (valid from 22.8.94 to 31.10.94).

(v) Bombay - Coimbatore - Bombay or vice versa (valid from 1.12.94 to 28.2.95)

(b) The concession is being offered only for the return journey leg on these routes on marketing considerations.

(c) Air Taxi Operators are free to charge any fares.

(d) No, Sir. However, Government have issued directions that no operator operating domestic air transport services in India shall serve any alcoholic drink on board and nor will any passenger consume any alcoholic drink while on board.

Construction of International Airport at Sindhudurg in Maharashtra

331. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the norms for construction of an International Airport;

(b) the number of International Airports laid by Goverment during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) whether Government have a proposal to construct an International Airport in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The norms are governed by the density of traffic, availability of land and other infrastructure to sustain the international operations.

(b) At present, there are 5 international airports. No airport has been declared as international airport in the VIIIth Plan so far.

(c) Government is considering an alternate airport to Naval airfield in Goa to sustain International operations within and close to Goa. Sites in Sindhudurg district, adjoining Goa, are being considered.

Chartered Flight for wedding

332. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India has adequate fleet of aircraft to cope-up with passengers bookings;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Air India's Aircraft have been chartered for wedding reception; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the wedding Chartered Flight was approved on consideration of incurring loss of revenue vis-a-vis the regular passenger traffic?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Air India's existing fleet of aircraft is adequate to meet the current schedule of operations.

(b) and (c) An Air India aircraft was recently chartered for a marriage ceremony. The charter did not affect any scheduled operation of Air India.

Supply of Electrical Goods to ITDC Hotels

333. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how much electrical goods and other items were supplied to ITDC Hotels by Sharat Electrocrafts Delhi during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

(b) whether any goods were found sub-standard; and

(c) whether any payment was withheld?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Of the 8 Delhi based ITDC Hotels, 3 Hotels made purchase during the last three years as per details given below:

Name of Unit	Amount of purchases made		
	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
	(In Rupees)		
1. Ashok Hotel, New Delhi	705.00	..	..
2. Hotel Samrat, New Delhi	51072.00	46924.00	..
3. Hotel Kanishka, New Delhi	20629.00	70068.00	182624.00

(b) and (c) The goods supplied by the firm being of acceptable standard no payment was with held.

Publication of Book on Tourism

334. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a Book titled "Little Known Treasures" published by the Department of Tourism wherein some objectionable facts were incorporated about the North-East;

(b) whether Government would shoulder the responsibility and find out who has supplied the fact that Guwahati is situated within the Himalayas;

(c) whether Government would take the responsibility about the gross mistake about the fact Cherrapunji is famous for its past glory as the seat of Ahom power where historical remnants are attraction to the tourists;

(d) whether Government would find out who has supplied the facts that Calcutta is the airport of Agartala and Dimapur is the airport of Imphal;

(e) whether according to Government, Guwahati, Imphal and Agartala are all little known places in the country, and whether it amounts to an insult to the people of this region; and

(f) whether Government would delete the objectionable and distorted portions from the book?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (f) The brochure entitled "Little Known Treasures" was brought out with a view to drawing attention of international tourists to tourist destinations which are yet to become popular. The tourist literature is prepared through well-known tourist literature agencies and with the assistance of established travel writers with a view to making them attractive and informative from the tourist point of view. Mistakes when noticed are corrected in subsequent publications.

Purchase of fire-tenders by Airport Authority of India

335. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state: